

Palghat Station

81. **Shri L. Eacharan:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 927 on 11th April, 1956 and state:

(a) whether the work of providing a covered roof on the Metre Gauge Platform at Palghat Station is proposed to be taken up in the near future; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b) The question of providing a covered roof on the Metre Gauge Platform at Palghat depends on a decision of shifting the BG/M.G transshipment from Palghat to Olavakkot which matter is under consideration.

In case it is definitely decided to shift the transshipment facilities to Olavakkot provision for a covered roof over M. G. platform will be considered depending upon the availability of steel.

Loan to Salem and Erode Electric Company

82. **Shri S. E. Arumugham:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Salem and Erode Electric Company applied for a loan to carry on their programme of power expansion during the First Five Year Plan; and

(b) whether the loan was sanctioned?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Yes, Sir. A recommendation was received from the Government of Madras for the inclusion in the "programme of power expansion facilities for increasing employment opportunities" an additional item described as "Loan to Salem-Erode Electricity—Distribution Co., Ltd.", for rural electrification schemes proposed to be executed by that Com-

pany. The amount of loan proposed for this Company was Rs. 10.16 lakhs.

(b) No, Sir.

Amaravathi Bridge

83. **Shri S. R. Arumugham:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Amaravathi Railway bridge in Trichinopoly District Olavakode Division is leaning;

(b) whether any complaint has been received by Government from the public to this effect; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to prevent accidents on the bridge?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir. One pier is however out of plumb by 1 in 26 (approx.).

(b) Yes, a complaint from one Shri Maria Susai of Kulithalai was received wherein he reported that the bridge was affected by floods and required immediate attention

(c) The lean in pier No. 10 of the bridge was observed several years ago and no deterioration has been noticed after it was first seen. The bridge is being regularly inspected by the engineers and an inspection was carried out also after the complaint from Shri Maria Susai. No action beyond repairs to slightly disturbed masonry at the top of pier No. 6 has been considered necessary.

Boilers

84. { **Shri Morarka:**
Shri Nathwani:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of indigenous boilers purchased by the Railways during the last three years both for meter-gauge and broad gauge locomotives;

(b) the names of the firms from whom they were purchased; and